

TALON



Operation Joint Forge

Task Force Eagle

Saturday, October 21, 2000

Small Steps of Hope
SFOR Helps the Healing
Weather Report
AF Team Providing Support
Demining
Engineers Check EAF
Turkish Medical Assistance
Soldiers Care for Civilians

THE KING CAN DO IT

Do you remember growing up and hearing all the fairy tales and nursery rhymes? There were The Three Bears, Little Red Riding Hood, Little Jack Horner, Mary Had A Little Lamb, Jack And Jill, Three Blind Mice and many more. Most of these stories had predictable endings, “and they lived happily ever after.” Most except the one nursery rhyme about that uncoordinated egg with the initials H.D.

You remember: **Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall;
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.
All the king’s horses, and all the king’s men;
Couldn’t put Humpty together again.**

As a boy, I kept waiting for the happy ending – of how H.D. lived happily ever after. But with this nursery rhyme, there was no happy ending. Humpty is broken. He’s in pieces. Everybody tries to put him together but nobody can. H.D. is broken, and nobody can fix him. Hold on, not so fast!

We live in a world of Humpty Dumpty people. People who are broken on the inside – where it’s hard to heal. You might be one of them. Maybe the hurt, pain and disappointments of your life have left your life shattered. Maybe there have been attempts in the past to put the pieces together, but nothing has really worked. The brokenness remains. There is no, “and they lived happily ever after” for you.

Be not dismayed. The Word of God offers real hope for what may have seemed hopeless until now – a happy ending. In Isaiah 61:1, it speaks of Christ who says, “**The Lord has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted.**” The Bible says that part of Jesus’ mission on earth is to put together broken people. Maybe all the king’s horses and all the king’s men can’t put you together again, but the King can!

If you will give Him all the pieces of your life – no matter how hurtful, shameful or ugly. Jesus can do what no friend or therapist or medication or family member can do. Why? Because He did what only He could do to deal with the root cause of all the brokenness in our world - sin. Sin always destroys and leaves behind the pieces. All of us have been sinned against – and all of us have been the sinner. All of our brokenness is from one or the other.

But Christ has come and paid for our sins by dying on the cross. The Bible says, “**He carried our sins in His body on the tree.** (1 Peter 2:24)’ Because He did this, He can forgive all the sins that we have done...and heal the damage done by our sins and the sins of others. That’s why Christ is called “Savior”.

No one else has been able to put together all the broken pieces of you. But that is why Jesus came – to bind up the brokenhearted. He is your wonderful hope of a happy ending. He is the King! The King can do it!

See me for the rest of the story!

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

Saturday: God made today with you in mind – so rejoice and be glad!

Sunday: If you meet me and forget me, you lose nothing. But if you meet Christ and forget Him, you lose everything.

Monday: Move away from temptation and leave no forwarding address.

Tuesday: Let God have your life; He can do more with it than you can.

Wednesday: The true measure of God’s love is that He loves without measure.

Thursday: The best way to forget your problems is to help someone else solve his.

Friday: A clear conscience is the softest pillow.

By CH (LTC) Clarke L. McGriff
TFE Chaplain

CORRECTION—On page 10 of the October 14 issue, the 57th Medical Company will provide air evacuation for TFME, the 249th Medical Detachment replaced the 43rd Medical Detachment for veterinary services and the 32nd Medical Logistics Battalion replaced the 147th Medical Logistics Battalion. Also on page 11, the unit who assumed authority is the 103rd Military Intelligence Battalion.

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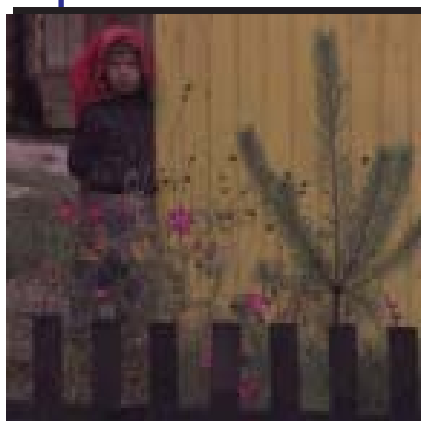
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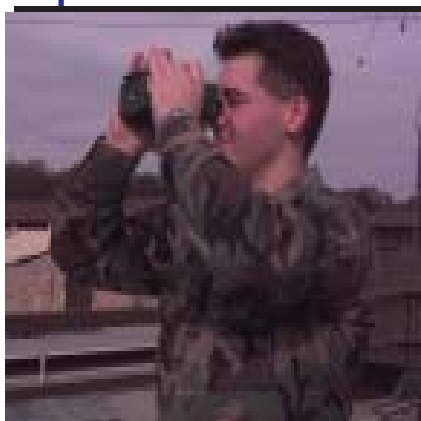
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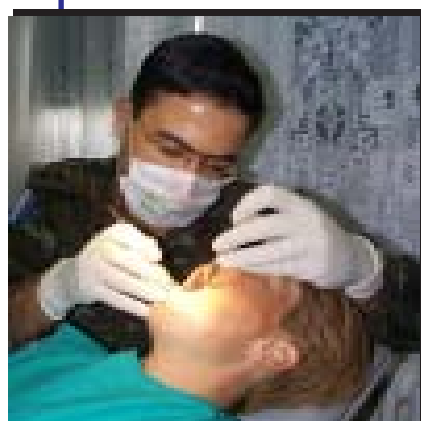
A child waits for school to begin. As part of their outreach program, Vive Zene runs a kindergarten at the Mihadovici Refugee Camp near Tuzla. (Photo by Spc. Stephanie L. Bunting)



WEATHER RAIN OR SHINE

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Comanche Weather Station clears the way for a clear takeoff and landing.



PEACEKEEPING MEANS CARE GIVING

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Turkish soldiers provide medical care for Bosnians of all ethnic backgrounds.

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SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

By Maj. Gen. Walter L. Sharp
Commander, MND-N

I would like to conclude the two-part series on my command philosophy with a message about safety. The safety of all those serving in Multinational Division-North (MND-N) is my personal responsibility. But I cannot do it alone. When accidents happen, we must stop and identify the root-causes behind the accident, identify potential problem areas that we must correct, and finally implement those solutions across the entire command to avoid the possibility of it happening again. I want leaders at every level to insure that their personnel are practicing the safest methods of conducting operations. We can settle for nothing less.

Since we arrived in Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH), the biggest hazard by far has been driving. In general, driving in BiH can be a dangerous affair. Roads are narrow and winding, without shoulders, or without marked bypass routes which may have not been cleared of mines. In my travels, I have also seen many instances where local motorists have made risky passing and lane-change maneuvers. In these situations catastrophe is a bend-in-the-road away!

As we head into the winter months, driving risks increase dramatically. I want to highlight the essential driving safety items you must practice prior to departing from your base camp in any type of vehicle. It is excerpted from USAREUR Regulation 385-55, *Prevention of Motor Vehicle Accidents*.

The senior occupant in the vehicle, who may be either the operator or passenger will:

- 1) Ensure a risk management plan has been approved before starting the mission and is approved at the appropriate level of command.
- 2) Verify the drivers have had sufficient rest to operate their vehicle safely.
- 3) Ensure all vehicle occupants wear seat belts. Troop straps must be used for passengers in rear-cargo vehicles while the vehicle is in motion.
- 4) Assist the driver in recognizing unsafe traffic situations and unsafe vehicle mechanical conditions.
- 5) Ensure the driver complies with road signs, speed limits, traffic laws, and unit SOPs and makes immediate corrections if any violations occur.
- 6) Ensure the driver maintains a safe interval between vehicles.
- 7) Ensure tire chains are used when needed and removed when not needed.
- 8) Ensure the driver's and TC's vision is not obstructed by ice, snow, dirt, placards, or other items not already mentioned.

I also want to highlight a few other safety issues that are very important to me.

As we get closer to the winter months, we will begin to see a significant decrease in temperatures. Precautions must always be taken to minimize exposure to the cold. Avoiding cold-weather injuries is a leader issue, and I expect all those in leadership positions to ensure that pre-mission checks are conducted, and that every soldier is prepared for missions in cold weather. Everyone in MND-N is too important to be a casualty of cold-related injuries.

We carry personal weapons as an added measure of force protection. The handling of that weapon is an individual responsibility and must be taken seriously. Accidental discharges of personal and crew-served weapons are a result of standards that are not being maintained. When clearing your weapon ensure you



Maj. Gen. Walter L. Sharp

are following the approved clearing procedures, and that you clear all weapons prior to entering any base camp or base camp facility.

As we get out into the many locations within our areas of responsibility, I want all to remain at the "top of their game" in terms of situational awareness. Even though you travel the same stretch of road or frequent the same towns, you must be on constant guard for any suspicious changes in these locations. This includes the places around our own living areas. As I walk through many familiar sites, I am amazed by the amount of unexploded ordnance around us. We have seen in the recent past, citizens of this country sustain serious injuries and even death from unexploded ordnance. We must be aware of unexploded ordnance warning signs, know where unexploded ordnance areas are, and only use approved roads for pedestrian and vehicle travel. The photos of mine detonation victims are unsettling; I don't want to see anyone go through the mental and physical pain of such a horrific event. Maintaining constant situational awareness goes a long way!

Lastly, let me say that ensuring safety in everything we do is non-negotiable. All leaders have the responsibility of incorporating safety awareness in the conduct of every mission. We also have a responsibility to each other. As a unified team, we owe it to our buddies to look out for them in the conduct of this important mission. I also charge everyone with the responsibility of immediately correcting and reporting unsafe acts to their chain of command.

I am extremely proud that we have trained, deployed, and have conducted operations in a safe manner. We must be on constant guard for complacency in our safety measures. The endstate to our safety program is simple; ensure that every person in MND-N returns home to their family and friends in the same condition they deployed. I am confident that we can achieve this endstate if we all focus our efforts on ensuring a safe environment in which to work, train, and especially live.

Rock of the Marne!



SMALL STEPS OF HOPE

Story by Capt. Memi Lebard

629th MI BN, Eagle Base

Photos by Spc. Stephanie L. Bunting

65th PCH, Eagle Base

Physical wounds are much easier to repair than mental damage is to heal. You need only look around the country to see evidence of tangible rebuilding, houses being cleaned, roads expanded, bridges reinforced and store fronts fixed up. This progress is visible and encouraging to the casual observer. Unseen are the layers of trauma inflicted upon the populace by the bloody civil war that ravaged the country only five years ago. It is this trauma and its aftereffects that a Tuzla-based Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) known as Vive Zene addresses on a daily basis.

Located at the end of a narrow, house-lined street in a Tuzla suburb, is a multi-family dwelling that serves as Vive Zene's headquarters and treatment center. Founded in 1994 as a joint project with an international women's group, Vive Zene strives to help women and children make sense of their new world, a world very different than it was before the war. By January 1999, Vive Zene became a fully independent Bosnian women's organization, working to restore self-esteem, dignity and hope. The program combines six-month residential therapy with ambulatory care and outreach efforts. Housing up to ten families, the treatment center also has facilities for group therapy, individual therapy, occupational therapy and a kindergarten. This balanced approach is key to forming social ties and a support structure for refugees and displaced persons.

It is the children who have been most impacted by the war. Ina Rahmanovic-Konig is a Dutch psychotherapist for children. Married to a Bosnian, she is committed to rebuilding her adopted country by helping the children reform their impressions of society. Even those who were too young to remember much of the fighting, or the fleeing, have their mother's memories surrounding them every day. They live in communal dwellings, at the refugee camps Vive Zene works with or at the treatment center. "There is a complete generation that will fall between the ship and the shore. With no continuation in their educational process and the secondary traumatization, they develop physical, behavioral and psychological problems," Konig said. That is what Vive Zene is treating and trying to prevent.

When children enter the residential program with their mothers or attend the kindergarten, Konig uses a simple test to

help assess their developmental levels. She calls it the "nice world" test. Giving the children colorful, miniature toys representing the basic components of a small town, she asks them to build their world, their village. Many do not understand. At an age where they should be able to conceptually grasp the term, they are unable to reach an end state, instead scattering the toys around, with houses upended and farm animals askew.

For the mothers, one of the most difficult aspects is the waiting. They feel helpless and unable to reconcile their current existence. "After five years, the women expect for us to tell them what will be and we don't have the answers. We don't know that they will go home," said director Jasna Zecevic. They have been living in limbo in the refugee camps, no real social ties or real economy, but it is all they have had for over five years. What would women who were wives and mothers do if they returned to their former homes? Would the trauma of relocating do more damage? Questions such as this trouble Zecevic even as she helps them deal with the ghosts of the past.

It is difficult for the small staff, half of whom are therapists and half of whom are teachers/administrative staff, to support the needs and expand the program with their limited funding. Zecevic explains, "The world camera moves and the money follows. You have to swim in between." Through their dedication, Vive Zene is currently funded or supported by over a dozen international organizations, including an Army Community Service Educational Center in Giessen, Germany.

Children dart up and down the stairs, past a cubby-hole filled with shoes. Here there is hope and laughter. No matter the background or troubled history, there are ways to help; small steps. Several of the women are employed cleaning houses. Previous residents of the center carry on the work, under Vive Zene supervision, in the refugee camps. A small network of women is pulling each other out of the mire. The network is growing.

"We must start somewhere," Zecevic stated. "This is what we can do for ourselves. The larger picture is up to the politicians and the international community." With SFOR presence, she feels safe and hopeful that Vive Zene's work will take root in a stable and peaceful environment. "You see the villages, step by step. It takes a very long time for people to calm down and stop fighting." And even longer for the wounds to heal on the inside.



DEVOTED FOUNDER —(above) Ina Rahmanovic-Konig hard at work. **A BIG HIT**—(top) Polaroid photos provide instant feedback for families living at ViveZene.

WEATHER RAIN OR SHINE

Story and photos

By Stephanie L. Bunting

65th PCH, Camp Comanche

Some of the most important missions during Stabilization Force Eight (SFOR8) are aviation missions. But just how do pilots prepare ahead of time to make sure they reach their destination? Pilots perform orientation rides when they start flying in unfamiliar territory to help them learn their area of responsibility (AOR).

Familiarizing themselves with the terrain, distances and equipment help with the success of the missions. However, there is always one factor that is always changing and therefore very unpredictable. That element of the unknown is the WEATHER.

Although pilots become familiar with their immediate surroundings, checking on the local weather forecast is very essential. "It's really important," said CW2 Dale A. Ramsey of Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 229th Aviation Brigade (A 1/229 AB). While flying the clear blue skies, the Apache (AH-64) crew ran into a "wall of clouds" and they had to come to a complete stop. "You couldn't see a hundred yards in front of you. It was just amazing," said CW2 Ramsey.

Flight crews may call the Comanche Weather Station, sometimes referred to as "Comanche Metro," either by phone or by radio. With missions always underway, a member of the crew may even step into the weather center for a little eye-to-eye contact.

To help with ever-flowing traffic to and from the weather station, Air Force Staff Sergeant Kimberly K. Lester, 1st Armored Division, Detachment 6, 7th Weather Squadron, places a copy of the daily weather brief, called a FLIMSY, on the counter for them to take.

The FLIMSY resembles the Department of Defense (DoD) Form 175-1, commonly referred to as a Dash 1, as it displays all of the vital weather information, "which gives the weather of our location, en route weather... and landing weather to where (they) are going," said SSgt Lester.

Each shift change brings a new FLIMSY report. This report lists items like wind speed, temperature, and altimeter. It is easy for the crew to read and helps the weather team save time from having to manually perform the brief. Of course, the team is available to answer any questions that may arise.

Each brief given, whether it is by phone, radio or in person, is



UPDATE REQUEST—Technical Sergeant Raymond M. Perez of 5th Corps takes a weather update request over the radio. Pilots that request weather briefs via the radio have priority due to their mission requirements.

logged in on a record sheet. This record keeps details of the aircraft type, location, and departure and arrival times. However, briefing times are stated in "ZULU" time instead of the local time zone. This is standard operation procedure for the station to help maintain consistency.

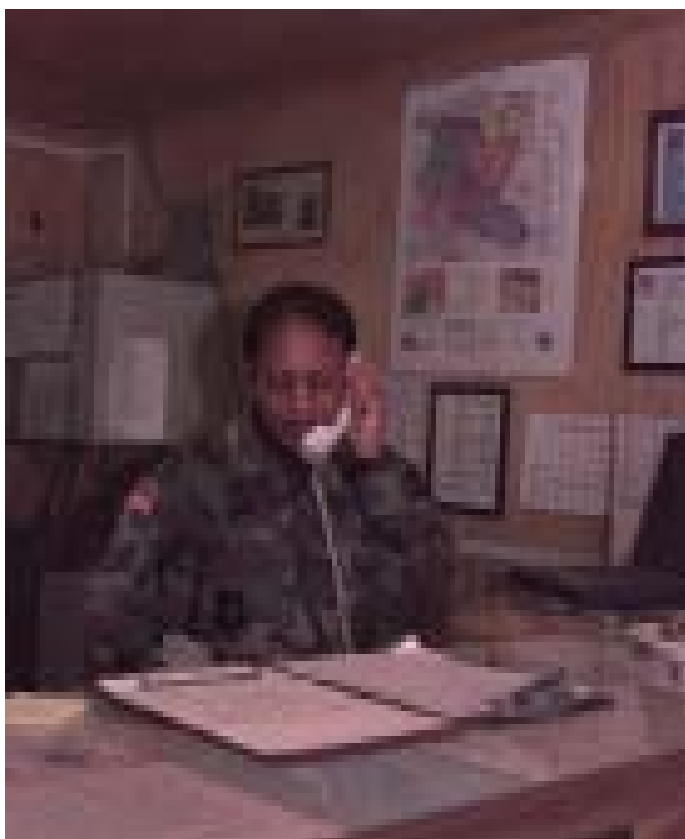
When a pilot receives their brief in "Zulu" time, there is a void time of one and a half-hours. This void time signals the time the crew of the aircraft must notify the station for an updated weather brief.

To avoid missing a vital call, "Comanche Metro" can not change their radio frequency. If inclement weather appears to be approaching, it is up to the flight crew to switch radio frequencies



TODAY'S VISIBILITY—Airman First Class Jason E. Davis uses a Laser Range Finder to find the distances to fixed markers. These fixed markers help gauge how far the visibility is for pilots before they begin their mission for the day.

RAIN OR SHINE—Air Force Staff Sergeant Kimberly J. Lester is busy with requests on updated weather information for Comanche and the rest of Multinational Division-North (MND-N).



and request updated weather reports.

Just how is the weather determined in the first place? Satellite systems and other equipment are used in determining weather conditions. One of the most vital instruments in guessing what “mother nature” will throw up in the air is the observer.

Just what is the observer and what does it do? The question isn't what, but “who” is the observer. The observer literally steps outside and actually “observers” the local surroundings. Using visibility markers such as mountain ranges, hills, buildings and other man-made structures is one way the observer determines critical information needed by the pilots.

With the use of a “laser range finder”, Airman First Class, Jason E. Davis, V Corps HQ Heidelberg, Detachment 11, 7th Weather Squadron, determines the distances, in meters, to these markers. Once these distances are known, it helps gage the amount of visibility the flight crews will have.

Next, the height of the ceiling and amount of cloud cover are needed. The ceiling height is measured in feet. Using the naked eye and seeing just how much of the sky is visible may determine the amount of cloud cover. The ceiling is 5/8ths of the sky and is measured in feet. If there are blue patches visible, the ceiling is considered “broken”. If the cloud cover is solid, it is considered overcast.

The GMQ-33 or Tactical Laser Beam Ceilometer shoots the laser high into the clouds. With an accuracy of up to 3,000 feet, the instrument reads how high the clouds are. The smaller hand held range finder is also a useful tool is accurate up to 60,000 feet.

Not only are ceilings and visibility significant, the wind speed is extremely important. The TMQ-36 is a Tactical Wind Sensor that helps the station determine wind information. It relays wind direction, wind speed and peak winds each hour. It is necessary to know the difference of wind speed when reaching higher terrain. If the wind speed is recorded at 25 knots around 2,000 feet and 30 knots near 3,000 feet, it is necessary to know the differences when reaching higher terrain, “it's going to be some what of a bumpy ride,” said Staff Sgt. Lester.

Through the tracking antenna, the Small Tactical Terminal (STT) downloads photos from orbiting satellites around the earth. As the satellite passes over head, the tracking antenna self directs and locks onto the orbiter and collects the data. This system is used to look for the total amount of cloud cover, fog, thunderstorms and rain showers throughout Central to Western Europe. The satellites pick up emitted infrared radiation and reflected visible light off clouds.

The NATO Meteorological Information System (NAMIS) also uses the satellite feed and sends all types of weather information. That information includes upper air data, model charts, observations and other necessary data to develop the forecast.

Radar shots are also displayed on the Ellason Tactical Weather Radar (Ellason or TWR). It shows reflectivity values, which depict areas of precipitation. It looks for storms brewing and is able to send minute-by-minute information on storms moving through the area.

With all of this state of the art equipment, weather forecasters and observers can interrogate storms and give up to date, and even up to the minute, weather information. When pilots are ready to move out, they will receive the weather data necessary to travel safely and successfully complete their mission.





COUNTING—While an EAF deminer looks on, Staff Sgt. Jason M. Hersey, 3d Plt, Co. A, 10th En. Bn., 3ID (M), measures the amount of demining in Gradacac.

ENGINEERS CLEAR THE WAY

Photos and story
By Sgt. Joseph C. DeCaro
65th PCH, Eagle Base

Standing several stories tall, the multi-colored building that once served as a high school has now become a home for birds as they nest in the numerous shell holes etched throughout its concrete walls.

Located near once known as Zone of Separation, the area around the school in the town of Gradacac, Bosnia-Herzegovina, was once the scene of fierce fighting as the battle lines between warring factions stabilized in a field just north of the building; a field still filled with mines and unexploded ordnance (UXO) that must be removed for life to resume here for the families living nearby.

Monitoring of this demining operation went to 3d Platoon, Co. A, 10th Engineer Battalion, 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized). The platoon oversees the work of approximately 45 Federation soldiers from II Corps, Tuzla, who are currently demining what once was a no-man's land extending approximately 2,500 meters northwest from the once peaceful school yard.

Staff Sgt. Jason M. Hersey led the platoon as it measured and recorded the amount of land cleared by the deminers as well as the number and type of mines and UXO discovered. The engineers also inventoried and inspected demining

equipment, replacing unserviceable gear with new flak vests, probes and mine detectors.

All the engineers' records are reported to the Mine Action Center here and eventually to Sarajevo, said Hersey.

He said about 35 mines, including anti-tank and anti-personnel, have been discovered in the field so far and expects to uncover more UXOs as the deminers approach what was the front lines along a nearby grove of trees.

Hersey, who was originally part of Implementation Force and is now on his third rotation, said there have been a lot of changes here since IFOR as they are now better organized and have more information on what is in the minefields.

Hersey has implemented the labeling of each teams' demining equipment to insure an accurate inventory record and to help eliminate distribution problems when replacing unserviceable gear.

After arriving at the school, Hersey took a tape measure and, with the aid of II Corps deminers, measured the progress of their work. Sgt. Tommy J. Mays, 3d Plt, Co. A, 10th En. Bn., 3ID (M) recorded the results for each demining team in square meters, tallying the totals when they were finished for the day.

As the deminers headed back early to Tuzla for the weekend, 3d Platoon also packed up and headed back home confident that they accomplished a very challenging mission.

Story by Sgt. Joseph C. DeCaro
65th PCH, Eagle Base

Mine Clearing Armor Plated dozers were recently used by the newly arrived 10th Engineer Battalion, 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized), to clear land for a new taxiway at Tuzla International Airport here.

Weighing in at approximately 72,000 lbs., the MCAP is an up-armored dozer designed to uncover and uproot mines that can then be deactivated.

Working at night under floodlights, the engineers of Co. A cleared away trees and other brush near the northwest corner of the runway to accommodate the wingspans of commercial aircraft, according to Staff Sgt. Dale M. Hubble, MCAP team noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

However, the discovery of concrete bombs once used for training purposes indicated the possible presence of unexploded ordnance in the area, hence the mine proofing mission using the rugged MCAPs.

"I'm confident," said Spc. Dennis R. Baxter, senior MCAP operator, "(there's) a lot of steel for a mine to go through ... the dozer is built to handle rough situations."

Baxter's confidence is based on his "stick-time" or experience with heavy equipment. However, should a mine detonate and damage the MCAP, recovery vehicles were on standby in the base motor pool.

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CHANGING OF THE STOLE

Story and photo

By Spc. Katherine L. Collins
65th PCH, Camp McGovern

Ending one rotation and beginning another, change of command ceremonies have taken place everywhere. Leadership has been transferred at every level and over every specific on-going mission. A transfer of spiritual leadership has been no exception.

Capt. Eric Boyer, 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized), took command of Camp McGovern's spiritual mission during a Changing of the Stole Ceremony at the McGovern Chapel Sept. 17.

Capt. Boyer replaced outgoing 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment (3rd ACR) Chaplain Capt. David E. Wake. His assistant, Sgt. Robert E. Locey, McGovern Chapel Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge, replaced Sgt. Richard Rios, 3rd ACR Chaplain Assistant.

As the Sabre Ministry Team heads home, the Can Do Ministry Team begins its mission.

"It is great to be here," said Capt. Boyer. "This is what it is all about."

Capt. Boyer, who was a church pastor before joining the military one and a half years ago, said what he loves most about being a military chaplain, the reason for which he joined, is it provides him with the opportunity to minister to soldiers in their own environment, to go with them where they go.

"The churches I pastored in the civilian world were predominately military churches. They were full of soldiers. Seeing how rewarding that ministry was, I thought of how much more rewarding it would be if I went with them (deployed). I thought about that going up to Hill 722. 'How neat it is to be going up to minister to soldiers who would have no one to meet their religious needs if I weren't here.' It's very rewarding," he said. "My primary mission here is to provide spiritual support and provide for the religious needs of all the

soldiers in this area of operation, just meeting soldiers' needs comprehensively," said Capt. Boyer.

Ministering to the spiritual needs of all soldiers in his area of operation is a difficult mission for him. He must visit with soldiers at Camp McGovern and Hill 722, as did those chaplains before him, but he must also travel to SFOR's newest Forward Operating Base to meet soldiers' needs there. The soldiers at Forward Operating Base Morgan and Hill 722 have expressed enthusiasm for him to visit, but visits are not always easily arranged, said Capt. Boyer.

"Sometimes convoys are hard to arrange, but I tell them (the command), 'If you can get together a convoy, I'll go,'" he said.

Regular transportation to the more remote areas is an issue in need of improvement, Capt. Boyer said.

"I think the command here understands my mission well though. They give me all the time and freedom I need to spend with soldiers, and any time I am there they say, 'What do you need chaplain? We'll take care of you.' If the guys in the remote camps really need to see me, they'll get me there. And, again, many times it's not a real crisis oriented situation. They (soldiers there) find my being there just good for their morale. Sometimes when I go out I just kind of pat them on the back, and tell them they're doing a good job," he said.

Many soldiers wish for him to visit that he might carry out the part of his mission the importance of which many often overlook, he said. Though he conducts services, and other events for spiritual growth, a main part of Capt. Boyer's ministry is just being there for soldiers.

"I often mark on the board outside my office where I am going, and then I just make visits around the base camp," said Capt. Boyer. "If I'm not in my office, I am generally in the DFAC (dining facility). Because a number of soldiers are not

religious, the DFAC is probably my second primary place to be found. Often soldiers who need to talk or just need to hear a positive word may not go to church or even approach my office. Sometimes they are just too embarrassed. So I go out onto their turf. I try to vary where I go and when.

"For example, in the DFAC- different missions are coming in at different times. As a staff officer you kind of get locked into hanging out with the staff guys, but I try to make a conscious effort to break out of that and sit with guys from different companies. I also try to vary the times I eat, so I can sit with different soldiers each time."

"The other night I was talking with some soldiers in the DFAC at midnight, particularly because that's when the overnight patrols are filling up their thermoses and stuff to head out on a mission. Soldiers will just see me there and stop me and say, 'Hey, chaplain, can I talk to you for a minute?'"

My mission is just being here and being available to soldiers. It's a comfort to a soldier to just know the chaplain is available," he said.

Serving in Bosnia-Herzegovina is not an easy mission. Soldiers work long days, live in close quarters and without accustomed comforts, and remain separated from family and friends for long periods of time. To successfully serve, soldiers must maintain physical, mental and spiritual fortitude, and do so in part by talking with friends when faced with the mission's challenges. Chaplain Boyer is one such friend to whom soldiers can always turn for guidance, or just a listening ear. To find him, they need to just look around camp. He is there. He is everywhere.

"Soldiers need to look inside themselves, then outward and upward for true guidance and strength to overcoming and growing from difficult situations while here, and if they need help in accomplishing that, then I'm always available," said Capt. Boyer.

SAVING THE WORLD WITH RADIO

Public Access Web Photo

Story and photo

By Pfc. Jessica E. Revell

102nd MPAD, Camp Dobol

People frantically rushed out of their homes with hand-kerchiefs and towels over their faces to flee from the gas raid. Some began to move household furniture, while others escaped to near-by parks. Thousands called the police seeking advice on protective measures. One man even called the *New York Times* to ask, "What time is the world going to end?"

Back in 1938, mass hysteria enveloped the entire nation, after an evening broadcast reading of H.G Wells fantasy play, "The War of the Worlds." Little did theatrical prodigy Orson Wells know that his dramatization of octopus like monsters from Mars obliterating cities with lethal heat rays would create a nation-wide panic. This did, however, prove one thing...the power of radio.

Radio stations throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina have cooperated with Stabilization Forces (SFOR) since the beginning to better bridge the gap between soldiers and civilians. Over 50 stations have invited SFOR time after time to fill hour-long slots with interviews.

"This gets the Americans closer to the citizens, so they can learn more about them," said Zorana Petkovic, owner and manager of 98.3 OSVIT.

98.3 OSVIT or "Sunrising," a radio station in Zvornik, has welcomed SFOR into their studio since the fall of 1998.

"Our station is pro information and education. Through SFOR we can find out activities going on in the mandate, ask questions about the NATO peace agreement, and talk about certain activities that are specific to the American Army," said Petkovic.

This station, like many of the others, has two slots for SFOR participation. The first is the question and answer and the second is an evening show made for the soldiers and by the soldiers.

"The soldiers come in and play music and discuss issues that are specific to them," said Petkovic.

Both shows are live in the studio. "People appreciate live shows. They show more of the truth," said Petkovic. Petkovic also said that during the live shows, the conversation is spontaneous. She and her guests have the freedom to say what they want while managing to cover important questions and issues. Through these radio shows, people can

find out the truth about SFOR.

"A common interest amongst listeners is SFOR engagement and what they do," said Petkovic.

Opinions vary, however, most listeners show support.

"A small number, we call radicals, refer to us as 'American radio' because we bring Americans in the studio," said Petkovic.

She said that overall, the SFOR involvement has helped rating because people just want to know.

"Radio is important for contact between SFOR and the locals," she said.

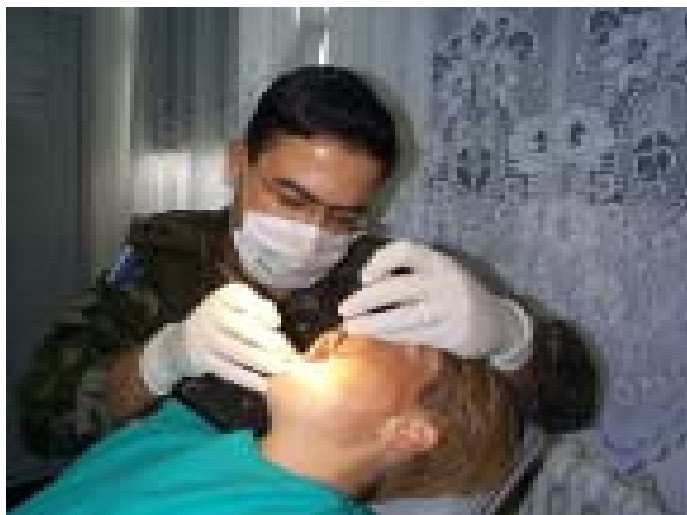
Radio...a powerful means of bringing the world together, not one of creating widespread panic.

GETTING THE MESSAGE OUT—Discussing SFOR related issues, Lt. Col. D. Bruce Hain speaks to listeners with Zorana Petkovic in the 98.3 OSVIT studio.





PREVENTIVE MEDICINE—A Turkish medical technician draws blood from Hayriya Gacun to run checks on sedimentation rates for her kidneys and liver.



OPEN WIDE—As part of dental services offered by the Turkish Battalion Task Force, 1st Lt. Alper Selvi treats a woman for a root canal and cavity.

SOLDIERS CARE FOR CIVILIANS

Story and photos by
Air Force 2nd Lt. Karen L. Roganov
Coalition Press Information Center

Peacekeeping means care giving for some Turkish Stabilization Force (SFOR) members. It's been a mission that has kept them busy for six years by helping Bosnians of all ethnic backgrounds.

Surgeons, nurses, doctors, dentists and medical technicians of the Turkish Battalion Task Force Medical Center have been aiding locals from Zenica and the surrounding area with free medical care and medicine since 1994.

"Of the 92,000 patients seen, more than half of them have been civilians," said Capt. Tayfun Eyileten, medical chief officer, internal medicine. "They have different and tragic stories."

Last month, Capt. Eyileten cared for a woman whose father and brother died during the Balkan wars. She appeared physically and emotionally older than her biological age, he said.

When asked about it, the woman responded, "I was hiding in a house for two months without food and water."

The woman, suffering panic attacks, nightmares and undetected body pains, was being treated for posttraumatic stress disorder, he said.

Up to 60 patients visit the medical center daily, with 15 of them receiving dental work, said Capt. Eyileten. "The dentist is often here until 10 p.m."

Across the hall from the dentist's office is an operating room where local, Salih Yasarevic's son was getting a circumcision.

"This is our first time here, but a lot of our friends have come because of cardiac disease and hypertension," said Yasarevic.

Capt. Eyileten explained that Bosnians use a lot of salts and animal products, so hypertension is high, with an average rate of 160 to 170.

Getting to the medical center, however, can be challenging for many, so the medical center goes to them.

"One surgeon, a general practitioner and I go to the displaced persons living in refugee camps," said Capt. Eyileten.

A trip may take medical officials as far as 200 kilometers from Zenica. "The roads are very narrow for the ambulance."

Besides treating hypertension, the Turkish Medical Center treats for diabetes, gall stones, peptic ulcers, osteoarthritis and depression.

"We also aid locals with wheel chairs, blind watches, hearing and speaking devices, eye glasses, hip prostheses, and orthopedic footwear," he said.

Once a month, Capt. Eyileten is part of an application review council at the Turkish Battalion Task Force, which meets to support other community needs.

"We gave a spectrophotometry machine costing 3,000 deutsche marks to the Zenica Canton Hospital," he said. He added

that treatment and medical donations are given without regard to ethnicity. And the hallway lined with patients awaiting treatment indicated the variety of people.

These people, however, would have different needs from many of those seeking help around 1994-1995.

"There was a plastic surgeon then performing with local doctors to help those injured from bomb blasts," said Capt. Eyileten.

While care may be occasional for some, for others it's ongoing. Hayriya Gacun from the town of Kakanj was having her blood drawn to check the sedimentation rates for her chronic kidney and liver problems.



TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS—Nurse Belma Ataci attends to Private Yuksel Durmaz who is being treated for a hernia.

SOLDIER'S SPOTLIGHT



Story and photos

By 1LT Robert A. Croke

Alpha Company, 10th EN BN, Eagle Base

For a job well done, Staff Sgt. Wendell Ducre received an Honorable Mention award from the U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) for the 1999 Sturgis Award Competition at Eagle Base, Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH) last week.

The Sturgis Award is presented to the top engineer Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) in the Army each year. Packets highlighting the NCOs accomplishments and contributions both on and off duty are put together and submitted for the competition. After being nominated by his home unit, the 92nd Engineer Battalion at Ft. Stewart, Ga., Staff Sgt. Ducre went on

to win at both the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) and XVIII Airborne Corps competitions.

During his visit to Eagle Base, FORSCOM Command Sgt. Maj. Andrew McFowler presented the award to Staff Sgt. Ducre and went on to explain that being selected as Honorable Mention at the FORSCOM competition was an outstanding achievement for Staff Sgt. Ducre so early in his career.

In addition to the plaque, Staff Sgt. Ducre also received a FORSCOM Command Sergeant Major coin.

Staff Sgt. Ducre would like to thank 92nd Engineer Battalion for nominating him for the competition and 1st Lt. Zack Miller for compiling the competition packet.

"It's a great honor to receive this award and be recognized by the FORSCOM CSM

for my leadership and performance. It was nice to have so much support from the 92nd EN BN and to see all the work that was put into the competition book. Thanks to 1LT Zack Miller and the entire chain-of-command for their support and effort. Make sure while you are here in Bosnia, you take a lot of pictures of all the projects and missions you accomplish." Said Staff Sgt. Ducre "Those pictures are your ticket to a good, competitive book. Thank you CSM McFlowers for coming to personally presenting this award. I hope to compete again in the future, and maybe next time I'll win!"

Staff Sgt. Ducre is currently attached to Alpha Company, 10th Engineer Battalion and is serving as the construction platoon sergeant for the Stabilization Force 8 rotation in BiH.